

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all previously pending claims with the following amended set of claims, wherein deleted text is shown by strike-through or double square brackets, and added text is shown underlined.

1. (currently amended) A method for treating a subject having a B-cell malignancy, wherein cells of the B-cell malignancy have low or no baseline expression of CD20 ~~upregulate expression of~~ ~~an antigen in response to immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide~~, the method comprising:

administering to the subject an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising a backbone modification and at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to upregulate expression of ~~the antigen~~ CD20 by the cells; and

administering to the subject an antibody specific for ~~the upregulated antigen~~ CD20, in an effective amount to treat the subject.

2-7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein the B-cell ~~lymphoma~~ malignancy is B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL).

9. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein the B-cell ~~lymphoma~~ malignancy is a marginal zone lymphoma.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~anti-CD20~~ antibody specific for CD20 is Rituximab.

12-13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the modified backbone is a phosphate backbone modification.
15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the modified backbone is an amino acid backbone.
16. (canceled)
17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is 8 to 40 nucleotides in length.
18. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is isolated.
19. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is a synthetic nucleic acid.
20. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide and the anti-CD20 antibody are administered together.
21. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide and the anti-CD20 antibody are administered separately.
- 22-23. (canceled)
24. (currently amended) A method for treating a subject having a marginal zone lymphoma or B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia, wherein cells of the lymphoma or leukemia ~~upregulate~~ have

low or no baseline expression of an antigen selected from CD19 and CD22 in response to immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide, the method comprising:

administering to the subject an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising a backbone modification and at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to upregulate expression of the antigen by the cells of the lymphoma or leukemia; and

administering to the subject an antibody specific for the upregulated antigen, in an effective amount to treat the subject.

25-33. (canceled)

34. (previously presented) A method for treating a subject having a B-cell malignancy, wherein cells of the malignancy upregulate expression of a surface antigen in response to immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide, the method comprising:

isolating malignant B cells from the subject;

identifying a surface antigen, the expression of which can be upregulated in response to immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide, wherein the surface antigen is expressed by the malignant B cells in an amount lower than that of normal B cells;

administering to the subject an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising a backbone modification and at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to upregulate expression of the surface antigen by the cells; and

administering to the subject an antibody specific for the upregulated surface antigen, in an amount effective to treat the subject.

35-42. (canceled)

43. (currently amended) A method for treating a subject having a B-cell malignancy resistant to therapy with an antibody specific for a surface antigen selected from CD19, CD20, and CD22,

wherein cells of the malignancy have low or no baseline ~~upregulate~~ expression of the surface antigen ~~in response to immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide~~, the method comprising:

administering to the subject an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising a backbone modification and at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to upregulate expression of the surface antigen by the cells; and

administering to the subject an antibody specific for the upregulated surface antigen, in an effective amount to treat the subject.

44-55. (canceled)

56. (currently amended) A method for treating cancer in a human, wherein cells of the cancer have low or no baseline expression of a surface antigen selected from CD19, CD20, and CD22, the method comprising:

administering to ~~[[a]] the human having a cancer, wherein cells of the cancer upregulate expression of a surface antigen in response to immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide~~, with an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long, said nucleic acid comprising at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to upregulate expression of the surface antigen by the cancer; and

administering to the human a human or humanized antibody of IgG1 isotype, which antibody binds to the cell surface antigen, in an effective amount for ~~killing the cells expressing the upregulated cell surface antigen~~ treating the cancer.

57-77. (canceled)

78. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the surface antigen is CD19.

79. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein surface antigen is CD20.

80. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein surface antigen is CD22.
81. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the B-cell malignancy is B-CLL.
82. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the B-cell malignancy is marginal zone lymphoma.
83. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the surface antigen is CD19.
84. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the surface antigen is CD20.
85. (previously presented) The method of claim 84, wherein the antibody is Rituximab.
86. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the surface antigen is CD22.
87. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the B-cell malignancy is a marginal zone lymphoma.
88. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the B-cell malignancy is B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia.
89. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the modified backbone is a phosphate backbone modification.
90. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is 8 to 40 nucleotides in length.

91. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is a synthetic nucleic acid.
92. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is ODN 2006 (SEQ ID NO:729).
93. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is ODN 2006 (SEQ ID NO:729).
94. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the antigen is CD19.
95. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the antigen is CD22.
96. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the modified backbone is a phosphate backbone modification.
97. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is 8 to 40 nucleotides in length.
98. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is a synthetic nucleic acid.
99. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is ODN 2006 (SEQ ID NO:729).
100. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the surface antigen is not expressed on the malignant B cells.

101. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the modified backbone is a phosphate backbone modification.

102. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is 8 to 40 nucleotides in length.

103. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is a synthetic nucleic acid.

104. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide is ODN 2006 (SEQ ID NO:729).